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April 15, 2004

Attorney Docket No.: **2834C2-303003**

## Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



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Presented for filing is a new continuation patent application of:

Applicant: STEVEN M. ZUNIGA, THOMAS H. OSTERHELD AND  
LAWRENCE M. ROSENBERG

Title: *METHODS FOR A MULTILAYER RETAINING RING*

The prior application is assigned of record to Applied Materials, Inc.,  
a Delaware corporation, by virtue of an assignment submitted to the Patent and  
Trademark Office and recorded on July 29, 1998 at 9356/0355.

Enclosed are the following papers, including those required to receive a filing date  
under 37 CFR §1.53(b):

	<u>Pages</u>
Specification	11
Claims	4
Abstract	1
Declaration from Prior Application	4
Sheets of Drawings	3

### Enclosures:

- Application Cover Sheet:
- New disclosure information, including:
  - Information disclosure statement (2) pages and
  - Form PTO-1449 (2) pages citing (32) References
- Return Receipt Postcard

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This application is a continuation (and claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC 120) of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/848,830, filed on May 3, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/090,679, filed June 3, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,251,215, each of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Basic filing fee	\$770
Total claims in excess of 20 times \$18	\$198
Independent claims in excess of 3 times \$86	\$0
Fee for multiple dependent claims	\$0
Total filing fee:	\$968

A check for the filing fee is enclosed. Please apply any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

If this application is found to be incomplete, or if a telephone conference would otherwise be helpful, please call the undersigned at (650) 839-5070.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this application by returning the enclosed postcard.

Please direct all correspondence to the following address:

***Patent Counsel  
Applied Materials, Inc.  
Legal Affairs Department  
P.O. Box 450A  
Santa Clara, CA 95052***

Respectfully submitted,



David J. Goren  
Reg. No. 34,609

Enclosures